



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



March 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
----------	------	----------------------------	---------------------------	--------------------------	--------------------------------	---------------------------------	---------------------------------	------------------------------	--------------------

WISCONSIN, Southeast

WIZ056>057-062>063

Sauk - Columbia - Iowa - Dane

04	1300CST	0	0	Heavy Snow
	2100CST			

A Heavy Snow event affected parts of south-central Wisconsin on March 4th. This was only the 2nd significant winter event of the 2002-03 winter season for this part of the state. Accumulations of 6 to 7 inches were noted in the Wisconsin River Valley of Sauk, Dane, and Iowa Counties through the southern part of Columbia County. Newspapers reported that dozens of vehicle accidents occurred after roads became icy or snow-covered. Luckily, the snow was fluffy and had a low water content, which minimized the impact of the event. Synoptically, a cold front was situated south of Wisconsin while warm air advection and frontogenetic forcing were maximized around 700 mb (10,000 feet AGL) over southern Wisconsin under the right rear quadrant of a jet streak.

WIZ065>066

Waukesha - Milwaukee

04	1500CST	0	0	Heavy Snow
05	0800CST			

A Heavy Snow event affected parts of southeast Wisconsin on March 4th and 5th. This was only the 2nd significant winter event of the 2002-03 winter season for this part of the state. Accumulations of 8 to 9 inches were noted across south-central Waukesha County over to the east-central part of Milwaukee County, just south of downtown Milwaukee. Newspapers reported that dozens of vehicle accidents occurred after roads became icy or snow-covered. Luckily, the snow was fluffy and had a low water content, which minimized the impact of the event. Synoptically, a cold front was situated south of Wisconsin while warm air advection and frontogenetic forcing were maximized around 700 mb (10,000 feet AGL) over southern Wisconsin under the right rear quadrant of a jet streak.

WIZ046>047-051>052-
056>060-062>072

Marquette - Green Lake - Fond Du Lac - Sheboygan - Sauk - Columbia - Dodge - Washington - Ozaukee - Iowa - Dane -
Jefferson - Waukesha - Milwaukee - Lafayette - Green - Rock - Walworth - Racine - Kenosha

20	0000CST	0	0	Dense Fog
	1000CST			

Dense fog developed early on March 20th, and dropped visibilities to 1/4 mile or less. The lowest visibility was 20 to 30 feet in Mequon (Ozaukee Co.). Air traffic was delayed or grounded at both Milwaukee's Mitchell Field (Milwaukee Co.), and Dane County Regional Airport (Madison-Truax Field). Several school districts delayed school openings by 2 hours, and newspapers reported many vehicle accidents. The dense fog was the result of clear skies, a light south-southeast surface wind, and leftover, low-level moisture.

WIZ046>047-056>058-
062>064-067>070

Marquette - Green Lake - Sauk - Columbia - Dodge - Iowa - Dane - Jefferson - Lafayette - Green - Rock - Walworth

23	1000CST	0	0	Dense Fog
	1300CST			

Dense fog developed early on March 20th, resulting in visibilities lowered to 1/4 mile or less across all of south-central and parts of southeastern Wisconsin. Air traffic was delayed or grounded at Madison's Truax Field (Dane Co.). Some school districts chose to delay the start of classes by 2 hours. Newspapers reported several vehicle accidents

Jefferson County

Ft Atkinson

26	1230CST	0	0	Dust Devil
	1233CST			

A dust devil formed in the city of Fort Atkinson and grew to a height of about 40 to 50 feet. It tore a decorative thermometer off a tree, overturned a lawn ornament, lifted garbage can tops to a height of 40 feet, and deposited a layer of dirt and sand across a residential street.